

DALTON-IN-FURNESS

URBAN SANITARY DISTRICT

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR

THE YEAR 1904.

DALTON-IN-FURNESS:

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ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

Dalton-in-Furness Urban District Council—1904.

To the Chairman and Members of the Dalton-in-Furness Urban District Council.

GENTLEMEN,

In accordance with the Order of the Local Government Board it is my duty to present to you an Annual Report of the Health and Sanitary Condition of the district which comes under your jurisdiction.

INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT.—The district is kept under regular supervision, special visits having been made in connection with outbreaks of any of the infectious diseases. Excellent work has been done in the abatement of nuisances and provision of minor sanitary requirements, as a proof of this I would call attention to the table on page.

SANITARY CONDITION & PROGRESS—WATER SUPPLY—

In spite of the comparatively dry summer, no scarcity of water was experienced, and the quality was generally above suspicion, if we except occasional complaints from Askam and Ireleth, of the turbidity of the supply, this being due, no doubt, to furring of the mains, which require regular flushing or relaying. After many years consideration and delay, the sanitary condition of the Hamlet of Woodbine has been greatly improved by the provision of an adequate water supply, this has been accomplished by the laying of a main from the termination of the mains of the Barrow Corporation at Newton. I trust the time is not far distant when the neighbouring dwellings at Tythebarn and Green Lanes may be dealt with in a similar manner, it will then only remain to provide a supply for Paradise, Greenhaume and Melton Terrace.

NEW STREETS.—Plans, Sections, and Estimates are being completed for the metalling, kerbing, and channelling of all the remaining streets which have not been dedicated to the Public. In that part of the village of Askam usually known as “The Lots,” the front streets have been metalled, kerbed, and channelled, and the back streets laid with tar macadam. A new road of considerable utility has been constructed from Askam to Dalton Road and the Lots.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.—A new 9 inch sewer has been laid from Grove Street and back Station Road to join the main sewer in Station Road. A new sewer has been laid at Yarl Well, and one at Back Chapel Street, Lindal. At “The Lots,” Askam, the new scheme of Sewerage and Sewage disposal has been carried out, the whole of the sewage will discharge into a settling tank on the shore, and this will be emptied at the ebb of the tide. The house connections with the sewers have been made.

NEWTON SEWERAGE.—The nuisance which at first arose in connection with this scheme has now been abated, the water course into which the effluent from the septic tank discharges has subsided through mining operations, and now finds its way into an abandoned mine.

EXCREMENT AND REFUSE DISPOSAL.—This work has been carried out satisfactorily, and more care is exercised to prevent the accumulation of refuse in the neighbourhood of dwellings. The conversion of Privies into W.C.'s progresses, but it will take many years at the present rate to complete

the work, and I certainly do not think that the Council should be satisfied until it is complete. On "The Lots" at Askam, the whole of the Privies will shortly be converted. A great boon has been conferred upon the Council's Workmen, especially those engaged in the emptying of privy-middens, by the erection of a change-house and accommodations for bathing. The men are now able to change their filthy impregnated clothing and take a bath before going to their homes.

COMMON LODGING HOUSE.—It will be remembered in my last Annual Report I expressed the hope that this establishment would not be again registered, and I am glad to say that on account of its structural unfitness, the Council have refused to renew the registration.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.—The Slaughter House in Tudor Square, Dalton, which was used by six of the Butchers, has now been closed on account of its unsuitable situation and structural unfitness for the purpose of a Slaughter House, the butchers displaced have found other premises. So far as the other Slaughter Houses in the district are concerned, they have been kept in fair order.

DAIRIES' AND COWSHEDS' ORDER.—During the year the Health Committee have had under consideration the question of adopting regulations prescribing a minimum air space in Cowsheds, and a draft of these regulations is receiving consideration from the Local Government Board.

FACTORIES' AND WORKSHOPS' ACT.—The Factories and Workshops have been regularly inspected.

Sanitary Inspector's Annual Report (Year 1904).—

SCHEDULE OF PARTICULARS.

| | | | |
|--|----|----|--------|
| Notices issued for sanitary amendments | .. | .. | 133 |
| No. or premises affected | .. | .. | 152 |
| Not attended to for various causes | .. | .. | 7 |
| Defective W.C.'s | .. | .. | 7 |
| „ Privies | .. | .. | 18 |
| „ Ashpits | .. | .. | 6 |
| „ Drains | .. | .. | 28 |
| „ Gullies | .. | .. | 42 |
| „ Slopstone Pipes | .. | .. | 4 |
| „ Yards | .. | .. | 10 |
| „ Spouts and Ventilators | .. | .. | 13 |
| „ Various | .. | .. | 16 |
| Houses notified with Fever | .. | .. | 56 |
| Rooms disinfected after Fever | .. | .. | 40 |
| Drains tested | .. | .. | 7 |
| Ashpits emptied | .. | .. | 9368 |
| Loads of Ashpit refuse removed | .. | .. | 4917 |
| No. of Slaughterhouses | .. | .. | 9 |
| No. of Tripe-dressers | .. | .. | 1 |
| No. of Inspections | .. | .. | 649 |
| No. of Registered Cowsheds and Dairies | .. | .. | 65 |
| No. of Inspections | .. | .. | 802 |
| Notices requiring W.C.'s served by the Clerk | .. | .. | 139 |
| Do. not complied with | .. | .. | 68 |
| Privies converted to W.C.'s | .. | .. | 71 |
| | | | <hr/> |
| | | | 16,628 |

Result of Verbal Notice only :—

| | | | | |
|------------------------------|----|----|----|----|
| Privies converted to W.C.'s | .. | .. | .. | 8 |
| W.C.'s repaired and cleansed | .. | .. | .. | 26 |
| Privies and Ashpits repaired | .. | .. | .. | 6 |
| Drains tested | .. | .. | .. | 7 |
| Drains and Gullies cleansed | .. | .. | .. | 17 |

Total.....16,692

| | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|----|----|----|----|----|
| | | | T. | C. | Q. |
| Lime distributed for house-cleaning | .. | .. | 3 | 14 | 3 |
| Sanitary dry lime distributed | .. | .. | 0 | 11 | 3 |

Factories and Workshops registered 83

THOS. PROCTOR,
Inspector of Nuisances.

VITAL STATISTICS.



POPULATION.—In making out the Vital Statistics of any district it is absolutely necessary that a correct estimate of population should be arrived at, and I think it may be taken for granted that so far as your district is concerned, that there has been but slight variation in the population from the Census returns of 1901, when the population was enumerated as 13,020 distributed as follows :—

| | | |
|-------------------|----|-------|
| Dalton and Newton | .. | 8921 |
| Lindal and Marton | .. | 893 |
| Askam and Ireleth | .. | 3206 |
| | | <hr/> |
| | | 13020 |
| | | <hr/> |

BIRTHS :-- The births registered during the year have numbered 359 or 27·5 per 1000. in the previous year the births numbered 377 or 21·1 per 1000 of the population. The birth-rate of your district continues to show a steady decline.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE BIRTHS —

| | | | 1904. | 1903. |
|-------------------|--------|-------------|--------|-------------|
| | Births | Birth-rate, | Births | Birth-rate. |
| Dalton and Newton | 260 | 29·1 | 263 | 29·4 |
| Lindal and Marton | 22 | 24·6 | 16 | 18·9 |
| Askam and Ireleth | 77 | 24·0 | 98 | 30·5 |
| | | | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| | | | 359 | 27·5 |
| | | | 377 | 28·1 |

In the Askam and Ireleth District as in my last year's report it is seen that the decrease in the number of Births is most marked, there being a slight increase in Lindal and Marton, and a very slight decrease in Dalton and Newton.

| | | 1904. | 1903. |
|---|----|-------|-------|
| In the 1st quarter of the year there were | .. | 93 | 92 |
| „ 2nd | „ | 82 | 102 |
| „ 3rd | „ | 83 | 87 |
| „ 4th | „ | 101 | 96 |
| | | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| Totals | .. | 359 | 377 |
| | | <hr/> | <hr/> |

MALE AND FEMALE BIRTHS.—There were 178 Male Children born and 181 Females.

DEATHS.—During the year 1904 there have been 161 deaths, giving a death-rate of 12·3 per 1,000, in the previous year 185 deaths were recorded, the death-rate then being 14·2 per 1 000, as in the birth-rate so in the death-rate there is a steady decline, this may, in part, be due to the fact that as there is a decline in the birth-rate there are fewer children in the first year of life, an age when the death-rate is invariably at its highest.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE DEATHS :—

| | 1904. | | 1903. | |
|-------------------|---------|-----------------|---------|-----------------|
| | Deaths. | Death- rate. | Deaths. | Death- rate. |
| Dalton and Newton | 117 | 13·1 | 135 | 15·1 |
| Lindal and Marton | 7 | 7·8 | 12 | 13·4 |
| Askam and Ireleth | 37 | 11·5 | 38 | 11·8 |
| | 161 | 12·3 | 185 | 14·2 |

The decrease of the deaths is shown by the foregoing table to be chiefly in the Dalton and Newton District.

| | | 1904. | 1903. |
|---|---|-------|-------|
| In the 1st quarter of the year there were | | 40 | 47 |
| „ 2nd | „ | 49 | 53 |
| „ 3rd | „ | 34 | 35 |
| „ 4th | „ | 38 | 50 |
| | | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| Totals | | 161 | 185 |
| | | <hr/> | <hr/> |

CAUSES OF DEATH.—

| | 1904. | 1903. | 1902. | 1901. | 1900. |
|--------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Measles. .. | 3 | 3 | 1 | — | 29 |
| Diphtheria .. | 4 | 2 | 2 | 1 | — |
| Scarlet Fever .. | 2 | — | 1 | — | 1 |
| Whooping Cough | 1 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 4 |
| Influenza .. | 2 | 2 | 9 | 8 | 13 |
| Diarrhoea .. | 5 | 10 | — | 13 | 6 |
| Enteritis .. | | 1 | 1 | — | — |
| Phthisis .. | 16 | 20 | 19 | 11 | — |
| Tuberculosis .. | 4 | 11 | 7 | 10 | 8 |
| Typhoid Fever .. | — | — | — | — | 5 |
| Cancer .. | 6 | 6 | 19 | 11 | — |
| Bronchitis .. | 21 | 21 | 27 | 19 | — |
| Pneumonia .. | 15 | 9 | 14 | 19 | — |
| Pleurisy .. | — | — | — | 1 | — |
| Cirrhosis of Liver | 1 | 2 | — | 1 | — |
| Heart Disease .. | 7 | 13 | 25 | 7 | 13 |
| Premature Birth | 5 | 7 | 11 | 12 | — |
| Child Birth .. | 3 | 2 | 2 | 1 | — |
| Accidents .. | 1 | 1 | 7 | 9 | 3 |
| Suicide .. | 1 | 2 | 1 | 3 | — |
| Puerperal Fever | 1 | 2 | — | 1 | — |
| Rheumatis Fever | — | 2 | 2 | 1 | 2 |
| Septic Diseases | — | 1 | — | — | — |
| All other Diseases | 63 | 68 | 91 | 84 | 111 |
| Totals | 161 | 185 | 230 | 220 | 272 |

INFANTILE AND SENILE DEATHS.—In infants under one year of age there have been 38 deaths, the infantile death-rate being equal to 105·8 per 1000 births, in 1903 there were 51 deaths at the same age period, the infantile death-rate being equal to 135·2 per 1000 births, in 1902 there were 62 deaths of infants, giving an infantile death-rate of 156·8 per 1000 births.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE INFANTILE DEATHS:—

| | Infantile Deaths. | Infantile Death-rate. |
|-------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|
| Dalton and Newton | 33 | 126·2 |
| Lindal and Marton | 0 | 00·0 |
| Askam and Ireleth | 5 | 65·8 |
| | <u>38</u> | <u>105·8</u> |

In persons over 65 years of age there have been 46 deaths as against 41 last year. and these have been distributed as follows:—

| | 1904. | 1903. |
|----------------------|----------|----------|
| Dalton and Newton .. | 31 | 33 |
| Lindal and Marton .. | 0 | 4 |
| Askam and Ireleth .. | 15 | 4 |
| | <u>—</u> | <u>—</u> |
| Totals .. | 46 | 41 |

DISEASES OF THE RESPIRATORY ORGANS.—This heading includes Bronchitis, Pneumonia and Pleurisy, the disease called Phthisis or Consumption of the Lungs being taken under a separate table. I find in the year just past there have been 36 deaths, 21 from Bronchitis and 15 from Pneumonia, in the year 1903 there were 30 deaths from this type of disease. The distribution of the deaths from Respiratory Diseases has been as follows:—

| | Deaths. | 1904. Percentage to deaths from all causes. | Deaths. | 1903. Percentage to deaths from all causes. |
|-----------------|-----------|--|-----------|--|
| Dalton & Newton | 23 | 19·6 | 18 | 13·3 |
| Lindal & Marton | 3 | 42·8 | 2 | 16·6 |
| Askam & Ireleth | 10 | 27·0 | 10 | 26·3 |
| | <u>36</u> | <u>22·3</u> | <u>30</u> | <u>16·2</u> |

PHTHISIS.—From this disease there have been 16 deaths as compared with 20 in the previous year.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE DEATHS FROM PHTHISIS ;—

| | 1904 | | 1903 | |
|-------------------|---------|--|---------|--|
| | Deaths. | Percentage to deaths from all classes. | Deaths. | Percentage to deaths from all classes. |
| Dalton and Newton | 11 | 9·4 | 14 | 10·3 |
| Lindal and Marton | — | — | 2 | 16 6 |
| Askam and Ireleth | 5 | 13·3 | 4 | 10·8 |
| | 16 | 2·9 | 20 | 10·8 |

ZYMOTIC DEATHS.—The diseases which are included under this heading have been responsible for 15 deaths, producing a Zymotic death-rate of 1·15 per 1000, in the year 1903 there were 17 deaths from this type of disease, the Zymotic death-rate being 1·30 per 1000. The following is a table of the deaths:—

| | 1904. | 1903. |
|------------------|-------|-------|
| Diphtheria .. | 4 | 2 |
| Whooping Cough | 1 | 2 |
| Diarrhoea .. | 5 | 10 |
| Measles .. | 3 | 3 |
| Typhoid Fever .. | — | — |
| Scarlet Fever .. | 2 | — |
| Totals | 15 | 17 |

DISTRIBUTION OF THE DEATHS FROM ZYMOTIC DISEASES.

| | Dalton & Newton. | Lindal & Marton. | Askam & Ireleth. | Total. |
|-------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|--------|
| Diphtheria .. | 4 | — | — | 4 |
| Whooping Cough | — | — | 1 | 1 |
| Diarrhoea .. | 5 | — | — | 5 |
| Measles .. | 3 | — | — | 3 |
| Typhoid Fever .. | — | — | — | — |
| Scarlet Fever .. | 2 | — | — | 2 |
| | 14 | — | 1 | 15 |
| Rate per 1,000 .. | 1·56 | — | ·31 | 1 15 |

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.—The following table gives the cases of Infectious Diseases notified under the Act which have been received during the year :—

| | 1904, | 1903. |
|-------------------|------------|------------|
| Scarlet Fever .. | 99 | 69 |
| Typhoid Fever .. | 7 | 7 |
| Diphtheria .. | 13 | 13 |
| Erysipelas .. | 13 | 15 |
| Puerperal Fever.. | 1 | 2 |
| Small Pox .. | — | — |
| Totals .. | <u>133</u> | <u>106</u> |

These reports have been received from the different parts of the district as follows:—

| | Scarlet Fever. | Typhoid Fever. | Diphth- eria. | Erysip- elas. | Puerper- al Fever. | Total. |
|-----------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------------|------------|
| Dalton & Newton | 75 | 7 | 11 | 13 | 1 | 107 |
| Lindal & Marton | 7 | — | 1 | — | — | 8 |
| Askam & Ireleth | 17 | — | 1 | — | — | 18 |
| Totals .. | <u>99</u> | <u>7</u> | <u>18</u> | <u>13</u> | <u>1</u> | <u>133</u> |
| 1903 .. | <u>62</u> | <u>7</u> | <u>13</u> | <u>15</u> | <u>2</u> | <u>106</u> |

Of the foregoing 42 cases of Scarlet Fever and 9 of Diphtheria have been removed to the Sanatorium of the Joint Hospital Board.

TYPHOID FEVER.—It is a matter for continued satisfaction that this disease which appeared to be endemic in the district a few years ago, is now quite rare, the outbreaks being of sporadic character. I cannot but think that this improvement, must, at least in some measure, be due to altered sanitary conditions, especially the conversion of the filthy privy middens into W.C.'s, and I trust the Council will not relax their efforts until the whole of these abominations have been removed.

In the following table I give the results of investigations which have been instituted whenever outbreaks of Typhoid Fever have been notified.

| Month. | No. of Cases. | Remarks as to cause of Disease. |
|-----------|---------------|---|
| JANUARY. | 1 | origin doubtful, possibly imported. |
| MARCH. | 1 | origin doubtful, premises satisfactory. |
| APRIL. | 1 | very unsatisfactory privy midden |
| OCTOBER. | 1 | Sanitary condition of premises good. |
| DECEMBER. | 1 | Premises satisfactory. |

SCARLET FEVER.—From the table of notifications, it will be observed that this disease has been very prevalent in Dalton during the past year, and gave rise to the necessity for school closure during the first quarter. The disease was of a very mild type, only two deaths occurring out of the 99 cases reported.

MEASLES.—This disease was prevalent in Dalton during the early part of the year, and its prevalence in Askam made it necessary to close the schools in October.

I regret that since the end of November, Mr. Proctor, the esteemed Inspector to the Council has been laid aside by serious illness, his work in the meantime, having been very efficiently performed by Mr. Caine, who acted in a like capacity on a former occasion.

It is very gratifying to know that Mr. Proctor is steadily improving, and I trust that with the advent of finer weather, I may again have the co-operation of a valued colleague.

I have to tender my best thanks to the Council's Officials for their assistance in the compilation of this report

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

G. H. PATTERSON,

Medical Officer of Health.

20th February, 1905.